

MARVEL

LEGACY

CRAZY RUNS IN THE FAMILY

191



MOON KNIGHT

BEMIS
BURROWS
ORTEGO
LOPES



KNOW THIS:

OF THE MANY THAT
EXIST, THERE ARE BUT
TWO GREAT GODS.



TWO THAT
MATTER.

THE FIRST,
SPIRITUAL
AND ELEMENTAL.
A TANGIBLE IDEA.



THE SUM OF ALL
THOUGHT, MATTER,
TIME, EMOTION. ALL
MYTH. INFINITE.

UNKNOWNABLE,
SAVE BY LOVE
ITSELF.

WHEN WE ASK "WHY?" SHE IS THE
ANSWER, BUT HER MOTIVES ARE
UNKNOWN. WE CAN ONLY BARELY
PERCEIVE THAT SHE IS ALL THINGS.

SHE WEEPS FOR US,
SHEPHERDING US
THROUGH THE VIOLENT
BIRTH THAT IS
MATERIAL EXISTENCE.



THEN...THERE IS
THE OTHER GOD.

THE PSYCHOPATH.



SKIN. TEXT. SOIL. COLD CALCULUS.
HE GOVERNS THE EARTH AS ITS
CREATOR AND MASTER.

TETHERED TO OUR FLESH,
WE CANNOT ESCAPE HIM.

WE NAME HIM "EVIL," BUT HE IS NO FALLEN
ANGEL. HE IS THE FATHER HIMSELF.
ABOVE US AND BETWEEN US, DIVIDING.



I, KHONSHU, AM BUT
A SERVANT TO THAT
FORMER, GREATER,
MORE ILLUSIVE POWER.

BUT MY FATHER,
RA? HE WOULD
DOMINATE HER.

TWO GODS
STRUGGLING.
THE OUTCOME
IS UNCERTAIN.



ONLY ONE
THING IS
CLEAR...

TODAY.
THEY ARE
AT WAR.



Marc Spector. Steven Grant. Jake Lockley. Each a distinct personality of one man vying for control. Spector, the original personality, has asserted his dominance and fights to retain that control. But years ago, as a mercenary, Spector died in Egypt under a statue of the moon god **Khonshu**. In the shadow of the ancient deity, Marc returned to life. From then on, Marc took on a new aspect in honor of Khonshu, dedicating his second life to fighting crime as...

MOON KNIGHT

CRAZY RUNS IN THE FAMILY

PART 4

An escaped mental patient with power over fire and a perceived connection to the Egyptian sun god Ra is aiming to tear Moon Knight's world apart. Calling himself Sun King, he has enlisted Marc's old nemesis, Bushman, to hit Marc where it really hurts. The first step in their plan: lure Marc out by forcing his former lover, Marlene, to reach out to him.

And all this just when Marc Spector had at last achieved some degree of control over his multiple personalities. Or at least, he thought he had, until he learned that the Jake Lockley personality had secretly maintained an affair with Marlene, and they have a daughter that she's been secretly raising...a daughter now in danger and at Bushman and Sun King's mercy...

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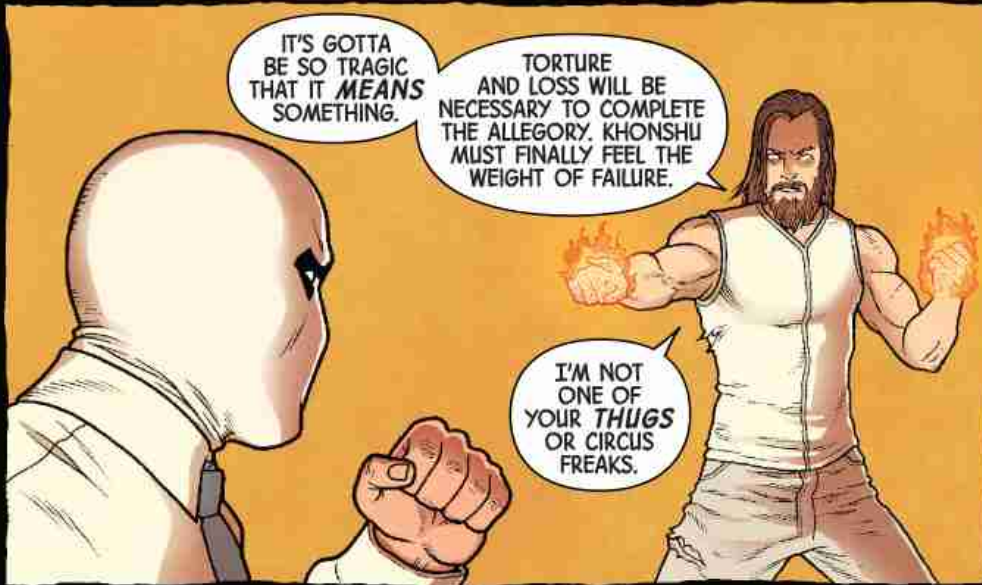
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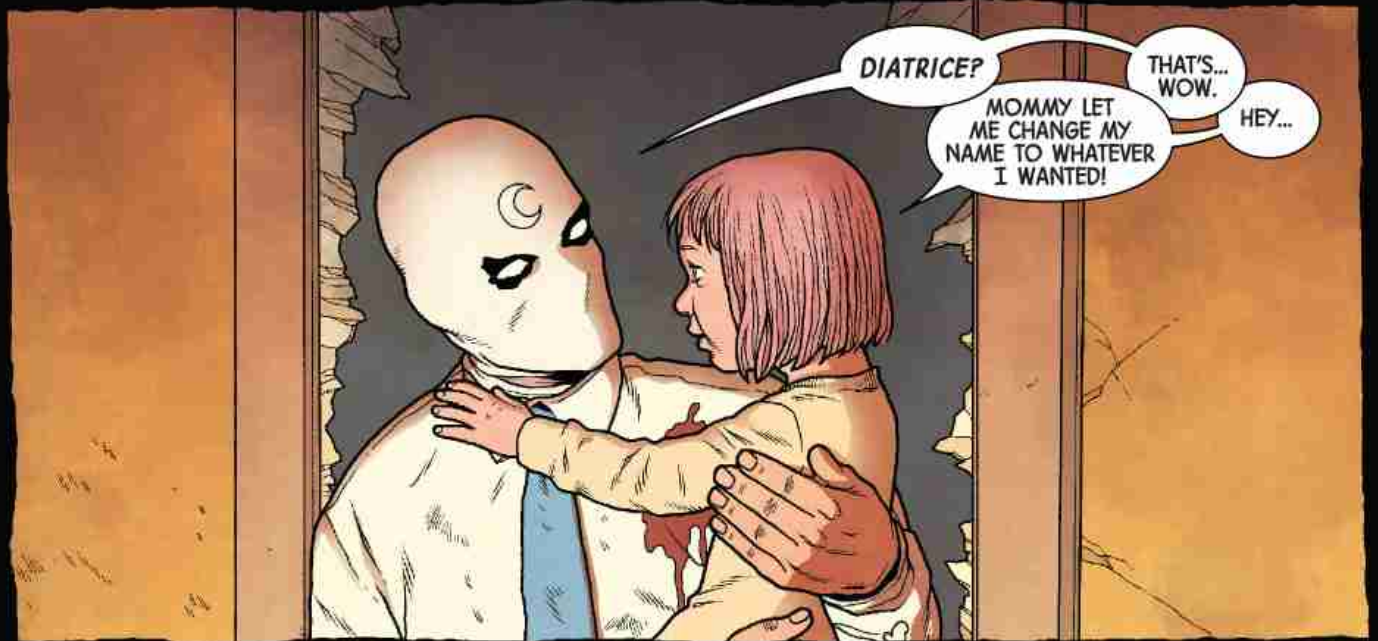
ALAN FINE



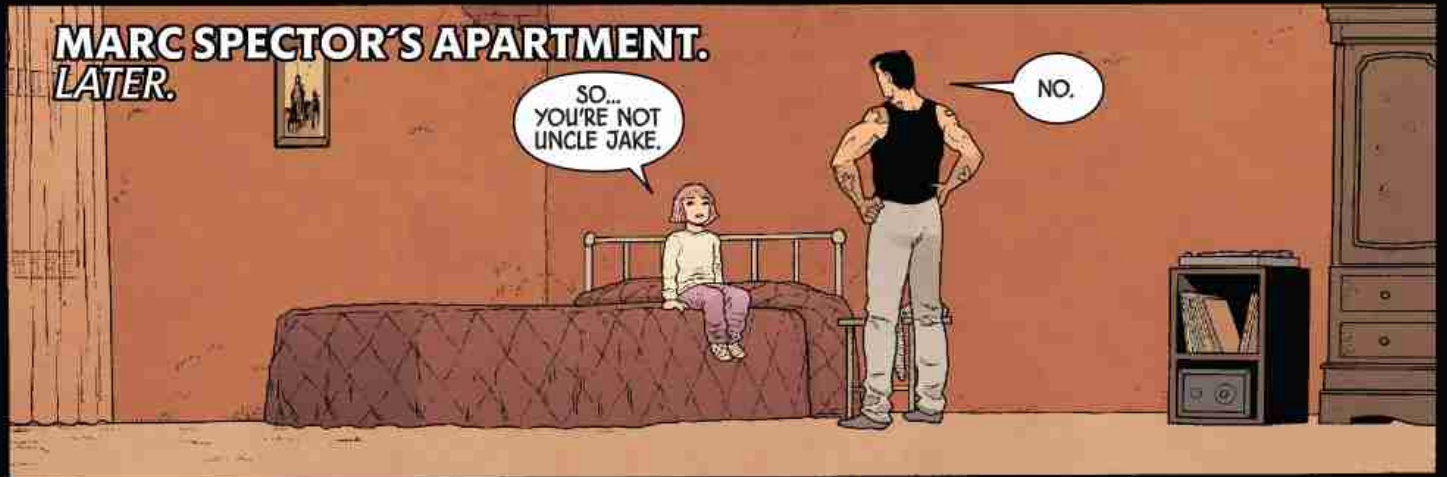








**MARC SPECTOR'S APARTMENT.
LATER.**





I KIND
OF AM
ONE.

YOU
ARE
NOT.

YOU JUST
WEAR A WEIRD
SOCK ON YOUR
FACE.

YOU DON'T
HAVE A SHIELD
OR A CAPE OR
ANYTHING.

YOU SMELL
AND YOU SEEM
TIRED.

IT WAS
AN OFF DAY,
OKAY?

I NORMALLY
HAVE A CAPE AND...
YOU SAW I CAN
FLY, RIGHT?

THE METAL
MOON THINGY
WAS FLYING. YOU'RE
JUST A *HUMAN*.

OKAY,
FINE!

LOOK, I'M
GOING TO BE
LOOKING AFTER YOU
FOR A WHILE UNTIL
WE CAN FIND YOUR
MOM.

BECAUSE
THE BAD GUYS
TOOK HER?

IS SHE
GOING TO
DIE?

NO! SHE'S
NOT GOING
TO DIE.

HOW
DO YOU
KNOW?

BECAUSE
I'M GOING TO
SAVE HER!

HOW?

SO MANY
QUESTIONS.
WE'LL LIE LOW FOR
A BIT AND THEN I'M
GOING TO SERIOUSLY
HURT THOSE
BAD GUYS.

THAT'S
SCARY.

JEEZ,
HE'S REALLY
\$@&# THIS
UP.



IT'S NOT THAT YOU WORK FOR THE GOVERNMENT, DUDE. IT'S THAT YOUR NAME IS ACTUALLY NICK.

CAN'T YOU WEAR SOMETHING STYLIZED? SHADES?

WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO WEAR SUNGLASSES? THAT'S SOME ABLEIST @%##\$, MAN.

DUDE, IT'S NOT ABOUT THE EYE, IT'S--

LOOK, HE DOESN'T HAVE A MONOPOLY ON EYEPATCHES!

DO I TELL YOU YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO WORK HERE AND BE BALD?

HAHAHAHA!

HEY, AT LEAST FINISH THE HAND LIKE A MAN...

FINISH YOUR OWN HAND, BUDDY.

I'VE GOT WORK TO DO.

BEEP

I NEED YOU TO LISTEN, BECAUSE I'M ONLY GOING TO SAY THIS ONCE, AND WE'VE GOT LESS THAN A MINUTE BEFORE THEY'RE ONTO US.



SOMEONE DOES *THIS* TO A HUMAN BEING... I'M THE BAD GUY?

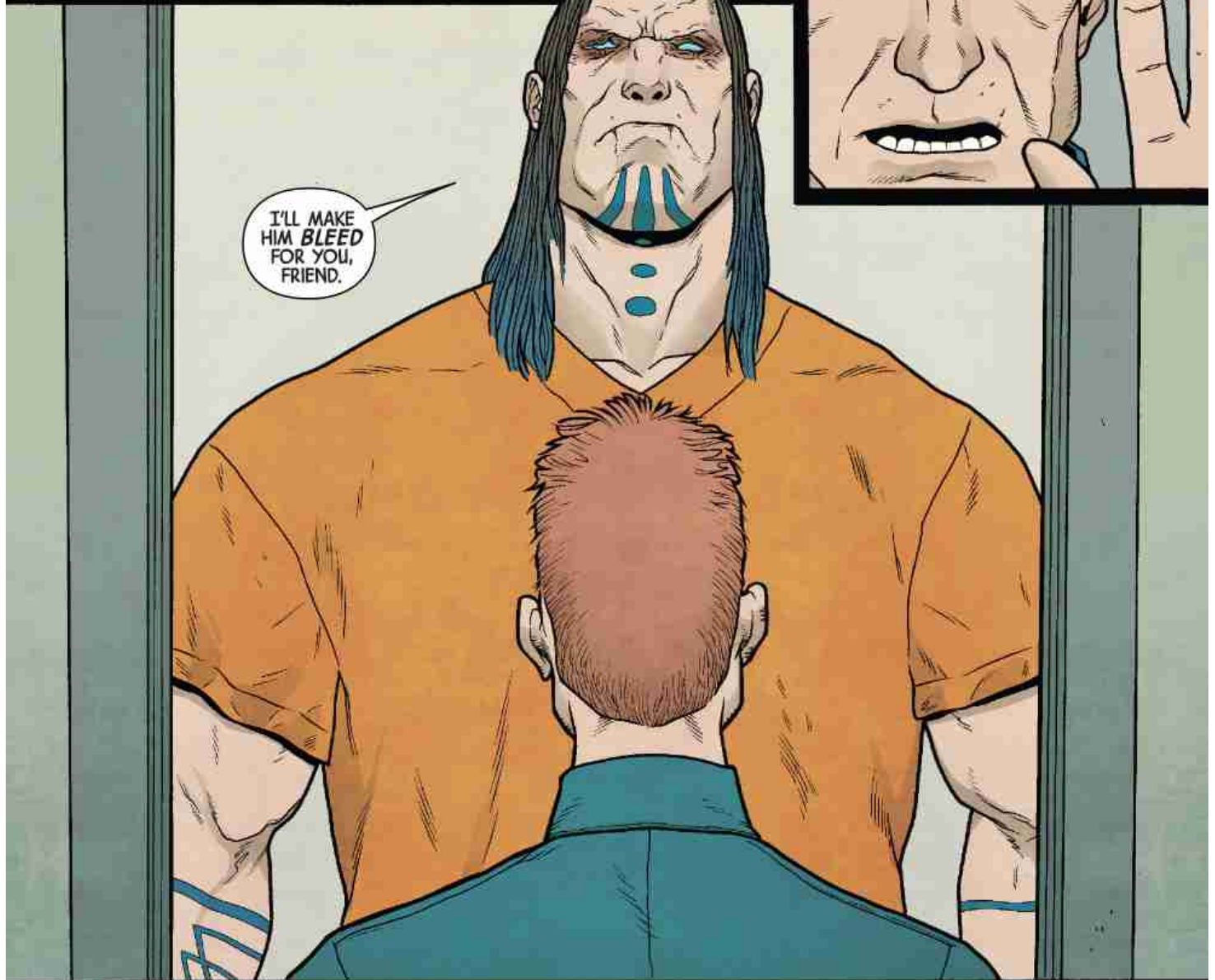
I'M THE ONE WHO HAD TO GO INTO HIDING.

SCARED SO BAD I HAD TO ABANDON MY LIFE AND DISAPPEAR.



FOR YOU AND ME AND EVERYONE THAT CAPED WEIRDO HUMILIATED.

AND TELL BUSHMAN I SAID "THANKS."



THE TRUTH IS SO UGLY IT'S EATING ME UP!



KHONSHU...
DON'T YOU BE
GIVING ME THAT
"CTHULHU"
BULL@#%\$.

NOT
YOU.

HE'S
KIND OF
RIGHT.

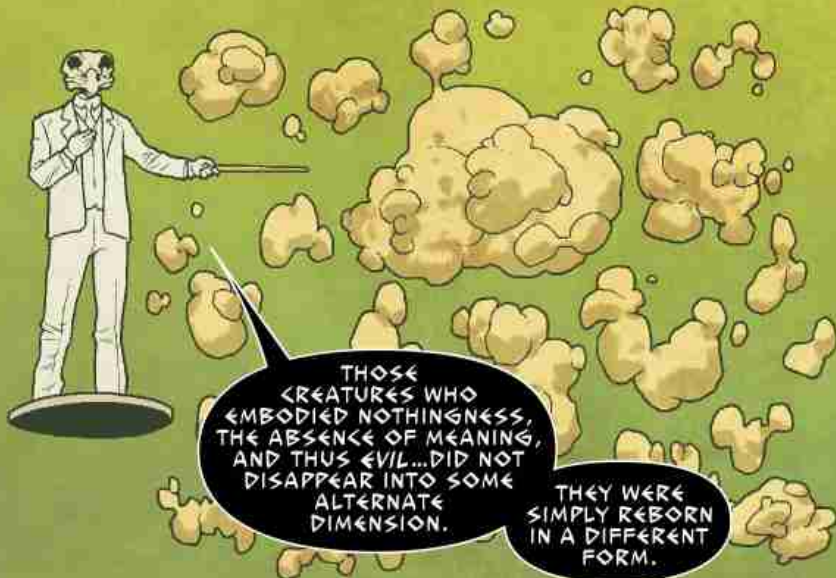
WE CAN'T
JUST USE SQUIDS
TO EXPLAIN ALL
WEIRD THINGS IN
THIS WORLD.

STEVEN
GRANT, DO NOT
HIDE ME FOR
SPEAKING THE
TRUTH.

I'M MERELY
TRYING TO
EXPLAIN RA'S
NATURE IN A
DIFFERENT
CONTEXT.

LORE TELLS US
THAT ALL EXISTENCE
WAS POPULATED BY
PRIMORDIAL BEASTS
BEFORE THE ACT
OF CREATION.

BUT
SCIENTIFICALLY
SPEAKING, NOTHING
IS CREATED OR
DESTROYED.



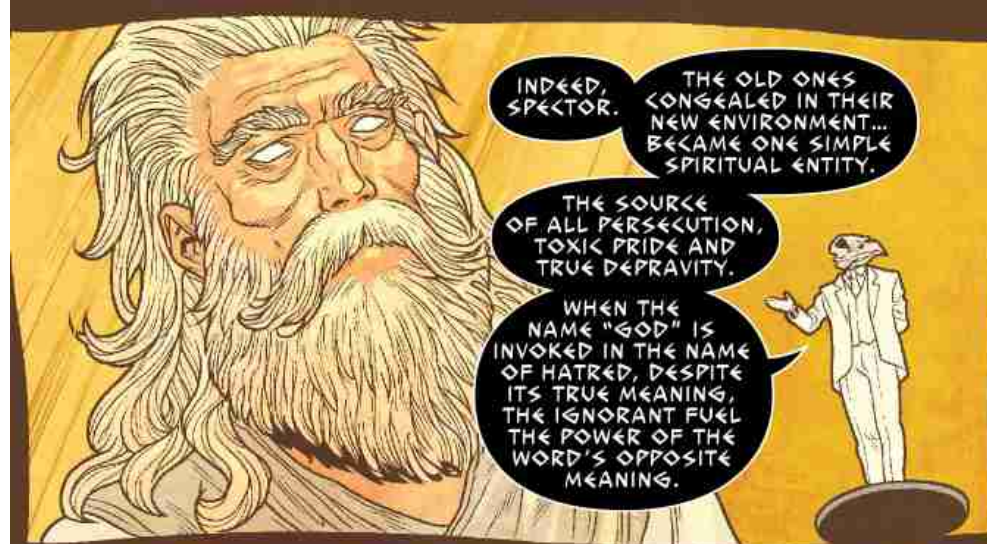
THOSE
CREATURES WHO
EMBODIED NOTHINGNESS,
THE ABSENCE OF MEANING,
AND THUS EVIL...DID NOT
DISAPPEAR INTO SOME
ALTERNATE
DIMENSION.

THEY WERE
SIMPLY REBORN
IN A DIFFERENT
FORM.

OH.

HIM.





INDEED, SPECTOR.

THE OLD ONES CONGEALED IN THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT... BECAME ONE SIMPLE SPIRITUAL ENTITY.

THE SOURCE OF ALL PERSECUTION, TOXIC PRIDE AND TRUE DEPRAVITY.

WHEN THE NAME "GOD" IS INVOKED IN THE NAME OF HATRED, DESPITE ITS TRUE MEANING, THE IGNORANT FUEL THE POWER OF THE WORD'S OPPOSITE MEANING.



THEIR INVISIBLE KING IS A LEVIATHAN MADE OF ANTIMATTER.



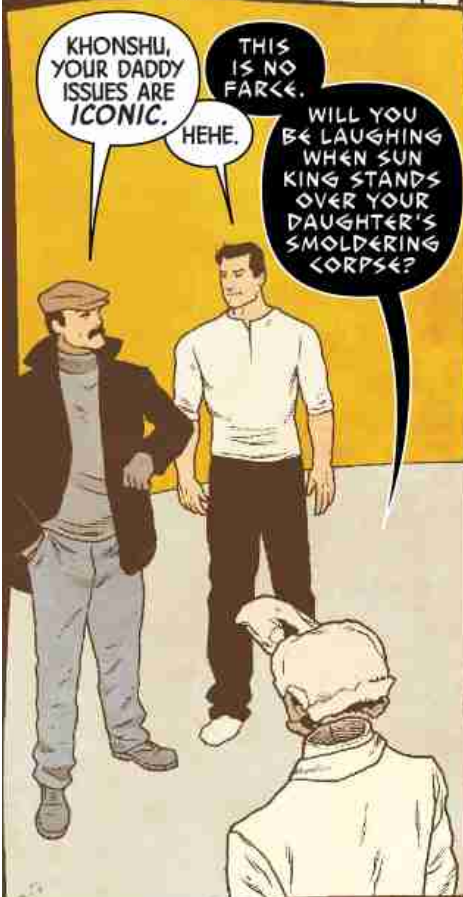
NAMED MANY THINGS OVER THE COURSE OF HUMAN HISTORY, BUT IN MY TIME...

THE GOD THAT THE EGYPTIANS PRAYED WOULD KEEP THEIR SLAVES IN LINE, THEIR COFFERS FULL, THE BEAST OF CIVILIZATION UNCHECKED BY DEFEAT.



HE. THEY. IT.

MY FATHER. RA.



KHONSHU, YOUR DADDY ISSUES ARE ICONIC.

THIS IS NO FARCE.

HEHE.

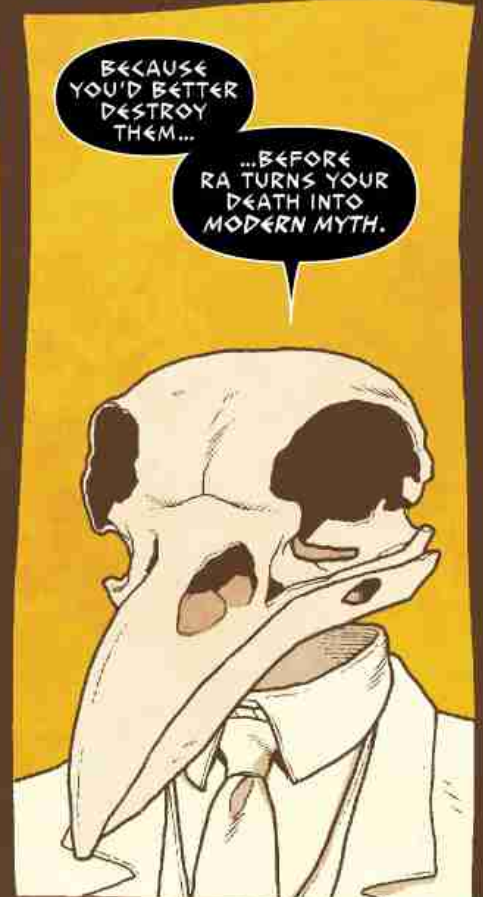
WILL YOU BE LAUGHING WHEN SUN KING STANDS OVER YOUR DAUGHTER'S SMOLDERING CORPSE?



... NO, KHONSHU.

OBVIOUSLY.

THEN SUIT UP.



BECAUSE YOU'D BETTER DESTROY THEM...

...BEFORE RA TURNS YOUR DEATH INTO MODERN MYTH.

I CAN'T STOP EATING.

I EAT BECAUSE I FEEL POWERLESS.

I FEEL POWERLESS BECAUSE I'M OBSESSED WITH THE HANDSOME DIRTBAG WHO TORE MY FACE OFF.

IT WOULD BE DRUGS RATHER THAN FOOD, BUT I CAN'T BECAUSE I'M A DRUG LORD AND THAT WOULD BE UNPROFESSIONAL.

NOT THAT IT MATTERS.

I JUST GOT REPLACED AS ENEMY NUMBER ONE, SO I MIGHT AS WELL JUST...



RAOUL.

IT'S HAPPENING AGAIN.



@#%\$!

I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO CONTROL YOURSELF!

I'M TRYING.

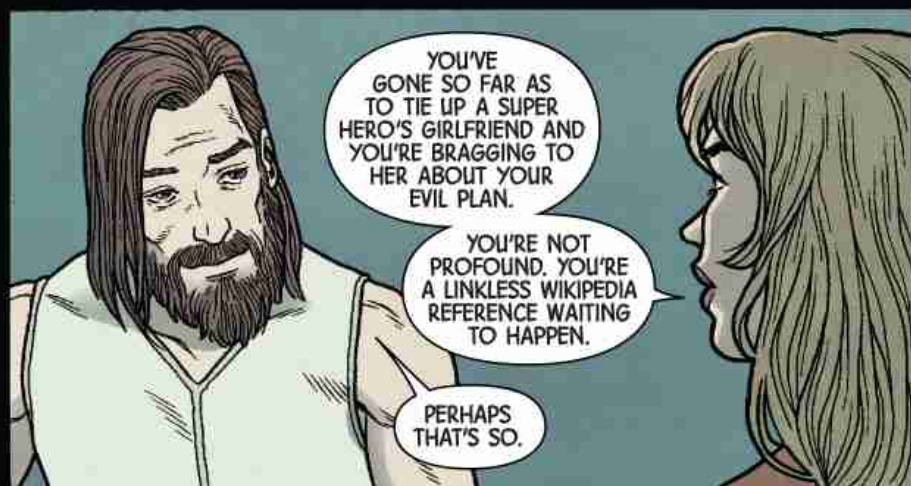
SOMETIMES IT JUST KIND OF HAPPENS WITHOUT ME TRYING.

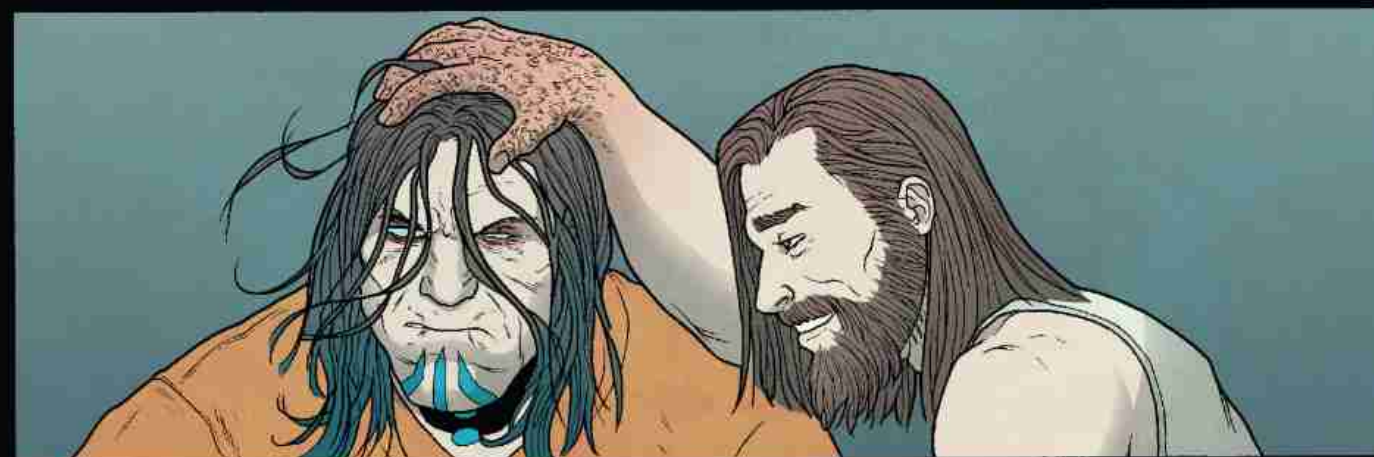
LIKE GAS.



ENOUGH!!!







"I PROMISE...
YOU'RE GOING
TO LOVE HIM,
DIATRICE.

"THIS IS A GUY WHO
WOULDN'T HURT A FLY,
BUT COULD CLIMB GIGANTIC
BUILDINGS WITHOUT
BREAKING A SWEAT.



"EVEN FIGHTING A WEREWOLF
COULDN'T SHOCK HIM.
A *REAL* WEREWOLF!

"TO BE HONEST, HE'S
SO BRAVE HE SCARES
ME SOMETIMES, AND
I'M...NOT EXACTLY
EASILY FRIGHTENED.

"PEOPLE THINK HE'S KIND
OF A FATHER FIGURE TO ME,
BUT...I THINK HE LIKES THAT
I GET INTO TROUBLE.



"BECAUSE HE GETS TO BAIL
ME OUT. AND HAVE AN
ADVENTURE IN THE PROCESS.



"SO TRUST ME, YOU'RE
NOT GONNA GET BORED
WITH UNCLE FRENCHIE."

KNOCK KNOCK

THAT'S
THE DOOR.
SHOULD BE
HIM.

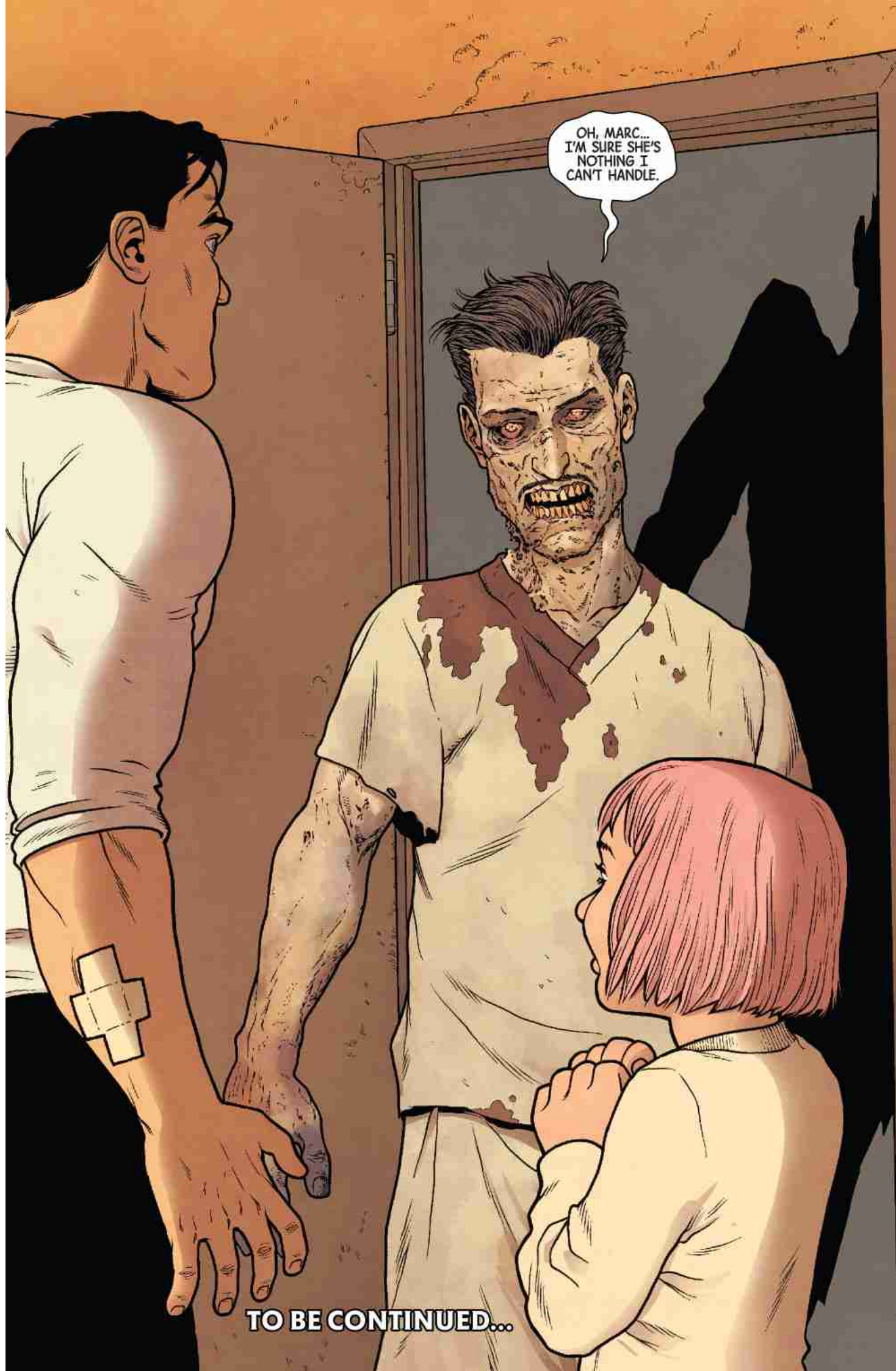
I'M
EXCITED.

YOU
SHOULD
BE.

THERE'S
NO ONE ELSE
I'D TRUST TO
KEEP AN EYE ON
YOU WHILE I GET
YOUR MOM
BACK.

ALL RIGHT,
JEAN-PAUL...GET
READY TO HAVE
YOUR HANDS
FULL.





OH, MARC...
I'M SURE SHE'S
NOTHING I
CAN'T HANDLE.

TO BE CONTINUED...

MOON KNIGHT

YIKES! Frenchie's not looking so good. Maybe he caught that cold that's been going around.

We've gotten a ton of AMAZING mail from the first issues, so let's jump right into your awesome letters!

Max,

I think I finally get "Crazy runs in the family" hours after reading MOON KNIGHT #188; so this guy possessed by Amen Ra is a relative of Marc Spector, then? So where's the real Specs? The artwork is more than good enough! I still think MK belongs on a team as much as on his own. I'd break off all the adjectives and put Moon Knight on...hmm, let me think...Avengers!!! Yeah, that's it; it'd be good for him, and his solo series. Great issue.

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

I can't speak to any familial relation between Marc and Sun King, but I can guarantee our Marc is the real Marc Spector and, as you've seen in recent issues, family is going to become a pretty big deal for him. Stay tuned, Andrew!

Dearest Max Bemis,

Let me start this letter off by being a bit of a fanboy for a second. Say Anything was a huge influence and help to me in my awkward, troubled young adult years. I've seen you live several times when you've come to Buffalo (and once in Rochester), and my ex and I even got a song from your song shop, ironically entitled Spider-Man. While we've since broken up, I know that song has meant a lot to both of us over the years.

With that out of the way, when I first saw your name on your WORST X-MEN EVER book, I was intrigued. I was very happy to find that it was also a fantastic story that hit on a lot of the same themes of self-doubt that drew me to your music a decade ago. Then I read your run on FOOLKILLER and was blown away. You took a total throwaway character and gave him an amazing arc and deep characterization. I absolutely loved that book. In fact, I'm going to re-read it after I send this.

Moon Knight, as a character, has always held a special place in my heart because of his struggles with mental illness. So when I saw your name on the new MOON KNIGHT book I had high hopes; to say the least. You delivered more than I could have hoped for with this first issue. You balance serious looks at mental illness with humor as well as ever. The line about being a "Foo Fighters guy" felt like a wink to me directly (obviously not possible) as I've said that countless times to friends (who didn't ask even once). The artwork is also breathtaking, shout out to Jacen Burrows for such incredible work. I really can't wait to see what you do with these characters. I'm already super into Amen Ra after one issue.

I could go on forever so let me end this by saying that you have a steadfast fan here for life. Thank you for helping me feel a little less alone in this world.

Dalton Ardillo
Buffalo, NY

P.S. This was my first ever letter to a column!

Welcome, Dalton! So glad to hear that Max's awesome musical fans are following him over to comics! And we're thrilled we were your first letter column, that's quite the honor! Hope we've lived up to your expectations!

Hey Kathleen, Mark & Jake,

Brilliant idea to commission Sienkiewicz to riff on Sienkiewicz. Bill paying homage to his younger self with a simple, beautiful design with maximum impact; one of the best lenticular covers in the Legacy launch. The overlay of each image, clashing...there's something not quite right...

...which segues into the uneasy story inside the dual covers. Max Bemis and Jacen Burrows are going somewhere darker and more horror-based in this arc. I believe, too, but without the severe burns. Certainly enough to see where Max and Jacen are going to take us.

Be seeing you.

Bruce Marsh
Newbury Park
England

Glad we could get you to believe without going through the same trauma as poor Dr. Emmet! And boy howdy, that Sienkiewicz cover sure was killer, wasn't it? When thinking about Moon Knight's legacy, how can you not think about the brilliant Bill Sienkiewicz?! If you've never checked out his incredible MOON KNIGHT run, you owe it to yourself to take in those beauties!

Hello MK crew!

Just wanted to drop a quick note and let you know how much I enjoyed the Legacy relaunch. The art and writing are both top notch, every letter and line are simply perfect. I cannot wait to read more from the team of Bemis and Burrows! The new villain was very well done, and I have never enjoyed a single issue more in which the title hero did not even appear! I think they have the talent to elevate Moon Knight to his well-deserved status among the A-list heroes in Marvel's stable.

On a side note, if you are looking for a letters column title I would like to submit Knight Mails as my suggestion. Again, thank you for breathing life into one of my most favorite and criminally underused characters!

Thomas White
Manhattan, IL

Thanks for the love for team Bemis and Burrows, Thomas! Seems like there should

be a more fun name for that team, right? The BBs? Macen Burrmis? I might not be good at this. Regardless, glad we're doing good by your favorites!

Hey Marvell

MK starts off great! It felt like I was reading his series from the 80s! I never heard of either Max Bemis or Jacen Burrows, but my god (Khonshu), this is gonna be good! Best regards.

Nikolaj

Nikolaj, If you've never heard of Max or Jacen, you are in for a real good time, my man! Firstly, you're getting this killer MOON KNIGHT book, but you also have a pretty excellent back catalogue to go through! Max's other job is rock star, so if you dig his writing here, check out the killer lyrics he writes for his band, Say Anything! And Jacen's been doing incredible work on a number of Avatar books for years, crafting some haunting, beautiful, and occasionally extremely upsetting art. If you dig horror comics, check out anything he did over there, particularly his runs on Providence and Crossed (but again, only if you have a strong stomach. Those books are INTENSE!).

Wow. What a start.

As a long time Moon Knight fan I go into each new volume cautiously, and this time was no different. I worried about the creation of an arch-nemesis, a stated goal of the new volume, as I didn't want it to seem forced. And of course Bushman has held that title in most people's minds. MK has one of the most unique and memorable rogues galleries in comics, so there is a lot to live up to, and you guys are off to a great start. Tying the new foe into the Egyptian mythology just plain works, and the history of the respective gods lends itself to rivalry, and this origin provides Ra with direct ties to Marc/Moon Knight. And by devoting an entire issue to exploring this origin, instead of a rushed villain attacking MK out of nowhere, you've made me care about what happens next. A first issue without the titular hero? Bold. But in this case, it works. Very eager to see what you guys have planned. Seems Marvel continues to pick the right creative voices for this character.

Mike Gronemeyer
Rochester, NY

Thanks for all those really kind words, Mike! You're definitely picking up what we're putting down, so that's awesome to hear! We were all a little freaked out about a first issue with no actual Moon Knight, but I think Max, Jacen, Mat, and Cory all absolutely knocked it out of the park!

"Crazy Runs in the Family" Part 1 is my first time reading MOON KNIGHT and I really enjoyed the first issue. Looking forward to the next issue to see where it goes.

Shane Defert

Thanks for writing in, Shanel! Hope the rest of the issues thus far have been just as enjoyable as the first, if not moreso!

Guys,

That was the creepiest Moon Knight book in my collection, and we're talking about a character that wore his nemesis's peeled off face once.

Welcome aboard my favorite character, and now I can stop begging, pleading, and harassing your editor on twitter about the status of this book.

It's fantastic. More please. More of that. And other things I haven't seen yet. This was worth the wait!

Marcus Vitcheil

Marcus! I always appreciate hearing from fans and having a chance to up my gif-game online, but it's even better to get actual mail for the book! The book that you now have in your hands! I hope you've been digging it, particularly the return of said villain who once lost his face. Poor Marc's going to have a lot on his plate very soon.

Hello Mr. Bernis & Mr. Burrows,

Thank you. If your first issue is any indication, this is the MOON KNIGHT I've been awaiting for a long time, maybe since the days of Doug Moench. While I have certainly enjoyed the quality of writers and artists on the various MOON KNIGHT versions during the last few years, I really was hoping to get back to Moon Knight as the Avenger of the Night and not so much the psychologically troubled individual of the night. Although Moon Knight is offstage for this first issue, from what is said and from the short bio at the rear of the book it seems that he has reconciled his personalities to the point that he will be able to function. The multiple personalities always made sense for him since Egypt has at least seven Moon gods of which Khons(h)u is not even the most dominant. I figured as soon as various aspects of the Moon God could learn to work together, then Moon Knight could return to the fight. Anyhow, I was 22 when MOON KNIGHT first came along and I'm still reading him, so that should tell you something.

The artwork is beautiful and the story is perfect. I feel like under your guidance, The Moon Will Rise. By the way, if you don't have a name for the letter column, how about MoonWriting?

Keep it rising,
Phil

Invoking the name of the great Doug Moench! Boy, we must be doing something right! Thanks for writing, Phil! As you've seen over the past couple of issues, all might not be as peachy keen with the other personalities as Marc thought, but I hope we've still got you invested in the story we're telling. I promise you, there's a lot of great stuff coming!

OK, I'm on board. Team Bernis, Burrows, and Lopes have captured the complexity of the character and created a villain worthy of doing battle with our misunderstood hero. Every hero needs an equally formidable antagonist to bring forth their best qualities. The groundwork has been laid and I'm excited to see where the story goes. I especially appreciate the creative team paying homage to and linking this story to Marc's past. It was great to see Dr. Emmet again. I hope she will be OK. I also thought the three-page Moon Knight primer by Robbie Thompson and German

Peralta was the best quick overview of an exceptionally complex character I have ever read. Thank you all for creating a book that really engages a reader and makes one think. I believe Marc, Steven, Jake, and Khonshu are in good hands.

Mark Pearson
San Francisco, CA

Ooh, Mark, I don't know that poor Dr. Emmet is anywhere close to approaching OK. Not a lot of people crossing the Sun King's path seem to end up terribly OK, which certainly doesn't bode well for Marc, Marlene, or Diatrice...

Dear MOON KNIGHT editorial team,

First of all, congrats on starting a new series for this wonderful character! I'm always pleased to see this guy get a revival, as I've been a fan of this character since discovering him through the Marvel: Ultimate Alliance video game. I especially enjoy the fact that Moon Knight's rogues gallery is expanding, something I've personally been wanting to see for a while. Will readers be seeing any other characters come in to help him in the future, or is our Silver Specter (Spector?) still the lone wolf he's been since the Warren Ellis run? Can't wait to find out in the coming months!

Josh Pierce

Well, Josh, Marc's still definitely marching to the beat of his own drummer, but now with Marlene and Diatrice in the picture, who knows who else might come dropping by? We can't wait for you to find out, either!

So I just finished MOON KNIGHT #188 and HAD to write in.

I've been a fan of Moon Knight forever now and I have read every single issue since 1980, so I was really looking forward to this, but also very scared, as you never want your favorite hero to get a bad run, but oh boy am I happy...

I'm blown away with this issue. It was everything I wanted and more. It was in-depth, powerful, weird, and very, very crazy... Which is just how we like it.

What a great introduction to Patient 86, am I allowed to call him the Sun King yet? Or do I have to wait a little longer?

Jacen and Mat did amazing together, the drawings and the color really pops, ESPECIALLY the dark red blood. That scene of Patient 86 in his room with blood everywhere literally made me scream with horror... and excitement...

Lastly, I just wanted to say THANK YOU MAX for bringing such a new and exciting character to us fans, and a fresh take on Moon Knight. And from the bottom of my heart, I CANNOT WAIT TO READ MORE. I guess you could say I'm "over the moon"...

Sincerely, your crazy friend across the pond,
Azeem
London, UK

Azeem, your "over the moon" joke made ME literally scream with both horror and excitement! And you better believe you can call him Sun King. In fact, you'd better! He doesn't seem like the kind of guy who'd be chill about someone calling him by his old name. With those fire powers, I don't know that he's chill about ANYTHING! (I can hear you groaning, but I REFUSE TO APOLOGIZE.) I'm glad you called out Mat Lopes's work, I think he's been absolutely killing it on this book! Those colors are absolutely drool-worthy.

Greetings Max Bernis and Jacen Burrows! And greetings to you too, Robbie Thompson and German Peralta!!!

The countdown's finally over!!! MOON KNIGHT #188 is here and it is great! Moon Knight is my favorite hero, by far, and I think you are up for something huge! I really enjoyed the first issue, but the timeline in my head is starting to fall apart. In Lemire's run, which I loved, Spector has glimpses of his past that include Dr. Emmet during his youth (by the way, was she given a full name?). Therefore, those flashbacks must be canon, right? But, in those same glimpses, he's beaten hard by Bushman and is left to die in the desert, not with gunfire as it is shown in the primer pages...

I really wish this series leads to great Moon Knight stories to be remembered, and that both old and new characters show up.

Till then, thank you for your time and consideration.

Pedro Afonso
Portugal



PS: This photo was taken during my first Comic-con

WHOA! Rocking costume, Pedro! Hopefully you're already happy at some of the old crew who has stopped by! As for those flashbacks, they're baaaaasically canon, but they're also Marc's memories, and Marc's memories may not be the most reliable. (and that may not be the last we've seen of Marc's uncertain headspace).

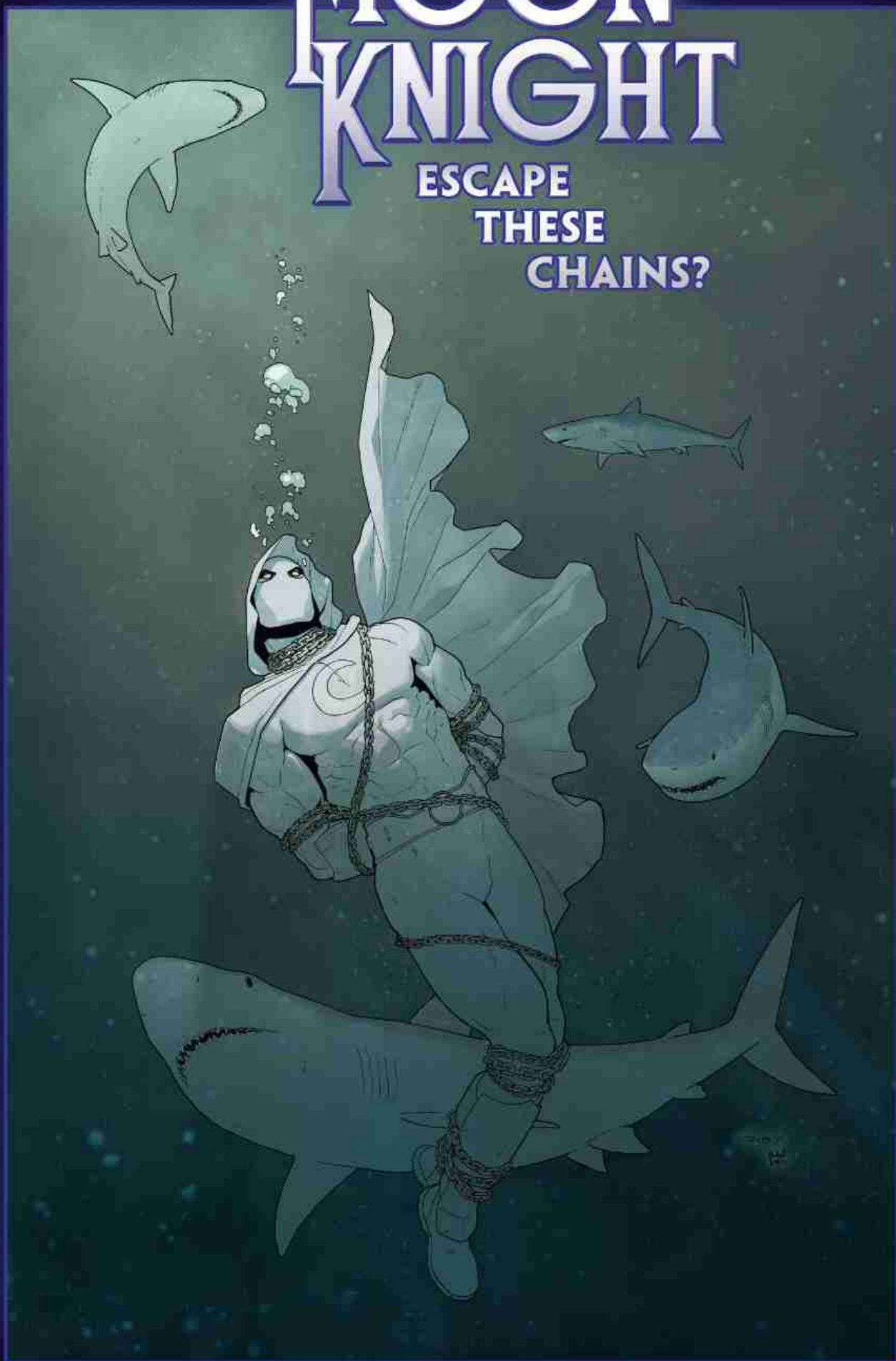
That's all we got! So, I'll see you next month with more MOON KNIGHT madness! Until then...

STAY WEIRD!
-Jake T.

NEXT ISSUE:

CAN MOON KNIGHT

ESCAPE
THESE
CHAINS?



Send letters into MHEROES@marvel.com, be sure to mark them "OK TO PRINT."